removed. So no estimate of the forest growth could be made beforehand.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was the growth to be removed first selected?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Yes.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Then cannot that be estimated?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No. The value of the forest growth could be estimated only as the work goes on.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—When the growth is selected, could not an estimate be made as to the value of the forest growth?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No; even now it is not made.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will it not be possible to estimate the value of the forest growth when the selection is made?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No.

Ranger, Mr. C. Govinda Menon.

425. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state why Ranger, Mr. C. Govinda Menon, is posted in Chalakkudi alone;

(2) does any one checkmeasure the logs, etc., measured by this Ranger from the plantation;

(3) (a) what is the maximum quantity of timber that a Ranger can measure according to *the Forest Code*;

(b) from the date of creation of this Plantation Ranger's post, how many thousands of candies of timber have been measured every year by him and what value was realised on his measurement;

(4) has the Conservator of Forests or the Divisional Forest Officer ever checkmeasured at least a portion of the logs so measured by the Ranger;

(b) if so, the dates of such measurements together with extracts from their respective diaries may be placed on the Table of the House;

(c) if none has been done, why this deviation from the Code Rules and has sanction of the Government been obtained; if so, a copy of the report of the Conservator of Forests and the Government order may be placed on the Table?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) Because he is the Plantation Ranger attached to the Conservator's Office.

(2) Yes.

(3) (a) No limit is fixed.

(b) In 1102. Candies 399—22—23—$8\frac{3}{4}$. No value was realised as it was given free in exchange for growing a Teak

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Plantation under 'Taungya' system. In 1103 Cds. 550-1-0-7¼. Value realised Rs. 2,945—14—10.

(4) (a) and (b). Yes. Checkmeasured by the Conservator of Forests on 12th Medam 1103.

The field work done by the Conservator of Forests while at Head-quarters never used to be entered in his diary.

(c) In view of the answer to (b) no reply is necessary.

Contractors of the Forest Department.

426. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a condition of the agreement entered into between the Government and the contractors collecting timber in the forests tapped by the Tramway that logs below ten *vannoms* should not be collected at all;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether the contractors—any of them—have violated the said condition;

(c) whether the Conservator of Forests took the measurements during the 1st or 2nd week of Kanni 1104 of the timber collected in any part of the forest tapped by the Tramway;

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, what was the total number of logs measured by him then and of this were there any below ten *vannoms*, and if there were, how many;

(e) whether the contractor was paid the collection charges for the logs measuring below 10 *vannoms*;

(f) whether the agreement to collect timber in the forests tapped by the Tramway is entered into between the Diwan and the contractor; and if so, the instance, if any, of the violation of the terms of such agreement has been brought to the notice of the Diwan by the Conservator;

(g) whether the Conservator of Forests refused to accept logs, if any, measuring below 10 *vannoms* and if not, why not;

(h) whether the Conservator obtained the sanction of the Diwan to accept logs, if any, below 10 *vannoms* prior to his taking the measurement, and if not, why not?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) Total No. 1005. There were 65 logs below 10 *vannoms* which are the result of billeting, etc.

(e) Yes.

(f) The agreement of the contractor is with the Diwan.

(g) No, as he did not think it advisable.

(h) No. It is also not necessary according to the agreement.

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